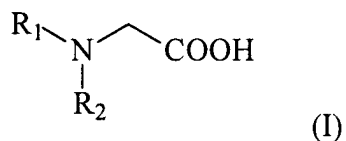


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A method for the treatment of poultry, which treatment comprises orally administering at least one glycine compound to the poultry, which glycine compound corresponds to the following formula (I) or to a salt thereof:



wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently an alkyl, an alkenyl or a hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms or wherein R_1 and R_2 form jointly together with the N atom a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring;

wherein the method is selected from the group consisting of a method for the non-therapeutic treatment of poultry for the purpose of reducing the conversion rate of the feed used to raise the poultry and a method for reducing the incidence of ascites in poultry.

2. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the glycine compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylglycine (DMG), N,N-diethylglycine, N,N-diethanolglycine, N,N-dipropylglycine, N,N-diisopropylglycine, and mixtures or salts thereof.

3. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the glycine compound is administered via the drinking water of the poultry.

4. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the glycine compound is administered via said feed.

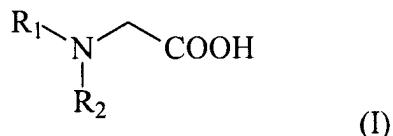
5. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the poultry comprises broiler chickens.

6. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the glycine compound is administered during a period to poultry which is selected and raised in such a manner that over said period the actual feed conversion rate is smaller than 2.50 kg feed/kg body weight gain and/or in such a manner that over said period the growth rate of the poultry is higher than 50 g/day.

7. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the glycine compound thereof is administered in an amount of between 0.001 and 0.5 % by weight of said feed.

8-18. (canceled).

19. (previously presented): A method for reducing the incidence of ascites in poultry, comprising orally administering a glycine compound to the poultry, which glycine compound corresponds to the following formula (I) or to a salt thereof:



wherein R₁ and R₂ are independently an alkyl, an alkenyl or a hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms or wherein R₁ and R₂ form jointly together with the N atom a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring.

20. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the glycine compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylglycine (DMG), N,N-diethylglycine, N,N-diethanolglycine, N,N-dipropylglycine, N,N-diisopropylglycine, and mixture or salts thereof.

21. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the glycine compound is administered via the drinking water of the poultry.

22. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the glycine compound is administered via said feed.

23. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the poultry comprises broiler chickens.

24. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the glycine compound is administered in an amount of between 0.001 and 0.5 % by weight of said feed.

25. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the glycine compound is administered during a period to said poultry which is selected and raised in such a manner that over said period the actual feed conversion rate is smaller than 2.50 kg feed/kg body weight gain and/or in such a manner that over said period the growth rate of the poultry is higher than 50 g/day.

26. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the method is a method for the non-therapeutic treatment of poultry for the purpose of reducing the conversion rate of the feed used to raise the poultry.

27. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the glycine compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylglycine (DMG), N,N-diethylglycine, N,N-diethanolglycine, N,N-dipropylglycine, N,N-diisopropylglycine, and mixtures or salts thereof.

28. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the glycine compound is administered via the drinking water of the poultry.

29. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the glycine compound is administered via said feed.

30. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the poultry comprises broiler chickens.

31. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the glycine compound is administered during a period to poultry which is selected and raised in such a manner that over said period the actual feed conversion rate is smaller than 2.50 kg feed/kg body weight gain and/or in such a manner that over said period the growth rate of the poultry is higher than 50 g/day.

32. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein the glycine compound thereof is administered in an amount of between 0.001 and 0.5 % by weight of said feed.

33. (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently an alkyl, an alkenyl or a hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or wherein R_1 and R_2 form jointly together with the N atom a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring.

34. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently an alkyl, an alkenyl or a hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or wherein R_1 and R_2 form jointly together with the N atom a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring.

35. (previously presented): The method according to claim 26, wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently an alkyl, an alkenyl or a hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or wherein R_1 and R_2 form jointly together with the N atom a heterocyclic 5- or 6-membered ring.

36. (new): The method according to claim 2, wherein the glycine compound is DMG or a salt thereof.